

Farmers' and Stockgrowers' Bank
Broadway & Main Sts.
Montour
Gem County
Idaho

HABS No. ID-39

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FARMERS' AND STOCKGROWERS' BANK

Location: N.W. Corner of Broadway and Main St.
Montour, Gem County, Idaho
UTM: 11/553950/4863300

Present Owner: United States Department of the Interior

Present Occupant: Unoccupied

Present Use: Unused

Statement of Significance: The building is the only remaining commercial building in Montour, and is an example of vernacular commercial architecture.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Date of erection: 1912

Builder: Unknown

Historical narrative:

This little bank building was built, apparently as a speculative venture, for A. D. Stanton, originally from Nampa, who had the bank and a residence erected in Montour in 1912. The bank was not occupied by a financial institution until 1920.

The Farmers' and Stockgrowers' Bank was originally incorporated as the Bank of Sweet in 1909. It was located in a little stone building in Sweet that had been built in 1907 and was very similar to the later Montour building in size and architectural style. The Bank of Sweet was renamed the Farmers and Stockgrowers Bank in 1918, after its purchase and reorganization by F. I. Newhouse.

In April, 1920, the Emmett Index carried a note that Newhouse and A. D. Stanton "spent some days" in Montour and Sweet, perhaps making final arrangements for the bank's move to Montour. The reasons for the move are not known, but Montour's location on a railroad (Sweet was not so located) was probably an incentive. By July 15, 1920, the Farmers and Stockgrowers Bank was open for business in Montour, where it operated until its voluntary liquidation in 1933 due to the Depression. Subsequently, the building was used as a meeting hall for the Ladies' Aid Society of the Montour Methodist Church and Community Club.

Bibliography:

Nampa Leader-Herald, 16 August 1912, 1:6

Emmett Index, 30 April 1920, 12:1; 15 July 1920, 1:5; 8 July 1920, 1:5.

Barrett, Glen. Idaho Banking 1863-1976. Privately printed, 1976. (Copy on file at the Idaho Historical Society, Boise).

Hawley, James H. (ed.) History of Idaho. Chicago: S. J. Clarke. 1920. (3 vols.), p. 409, Vol. III.

Hobson, G. C. (Comp.) Idaho Digest and Blue Book. Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, Ltd., 1935, p. 215.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATIONGeneral statement

1. Architectural merit and interest: The building is a good example of its building type - the small bank building - in the American rural vernacular commercial architecture of the early twentieth century, and is the only commercial building in the town.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair to poor.
3. Summary description: One story, 49' x 25'-6", rectangular plan.

Detailed description of exterior

1. Foundations: Concrete of river gravel aggregate, at grade level.
2. Wall construction: Red common brick, 2½" x 8 1/8" x 4", laid in common bond. Header courses are separated by five courses of stretchers. The outer surface of the lower 3"-8" of the wall has been painted white, forming a dado; but the outer surface here is soft and has crumbled away in many places.
3. Structural system: Brick bearing wall with wood joist floor and roof construction. Brick vault walls and brick or concrete vault ceiling.
4. Porches, etc.: None
5. Chimneys: Low plastered brick chimney at the middle near the rear of the building.

6. Openings, doorways and doors: The main entrance doorway has a concealed metal lintel. The two narrow doorways at the rear portion of the building are spanned by an oddly shaped segmental arch whose outer curves are flattened. The arch has two row-locks. The frames for all doors are wood with horizontal heads even at the arched openings, where there are wooden tympana. The main entrance doors are wood covered with galvanized sheet metal and are glazed for the upper two-thirds of their height. The rear door has a square light of glass of full panel width, above three door panels. This is a wooden door. The door near the rear of the south wall is similar; it is walled over on the inside.
7. Openings, window: The large windows have a concealed metal lintel. The small window openings are spanned with arches of the same form and type as the narrow doorways. The frames for all windows have horizontal heads, even at the arched openings, where there are wooden tympana. The large windows have fixed wooden sash with six panes. The small windows are 1/1 double-hung sash. Glass is clear.
8. Roof shape, covering: The roof has a single slope down from the front end (east) to the rear (west) of the building. The roof covering appears to be built-up asphalt and felt roofing, over which corrugated metal was later added, as well as green mineral surfaced roofing over the tops of the parapet walls. The roof covering is in poor condition.
9. Roof, cornice, eaves: The front end and the sides of the building have parapets, highest for the two street fronts of the forward part of the building. At the street fronts this parapet is capped by two projecting courses of bricks. Below the cap, separated from it by two courses of bricks, is a decorative brickwork band composed of half bricks set obliquely so as to create a pattern which is a sawtooth in plan. The rear of the building has a surface-mounted gutter.
10. Roof, dormers, etc.: None

Detailed description of interior

1. Floor plan: The front portion of the building - roughly two thirds of it - is a single large room. At the rear of this room, near the north wall, is the vault, its door opening into the large room and its area subtracting from the rear third of the building. The vault no longer has its vault door, and it is subdivided to form a closet and a toilet. The rear room is not subdivided.
2. Stairways: None

3. Flooring: The vault floor is concrete. The rest of the flooring is of fir matchboards, 3½ inches exposed. In the large room 4'x8' sheets of masonite have been nailed over the fir. Portions of the floor are rotted at the northeast corner of this room.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Exterior walls are plaster on the inner surface of the bricks. The vault walls are plastered on both sides. The partitions are half-inch fiber insulation board on wood studs. The present ceiling is of the same material and is suspended below the original ceiling, the wood laths of which are in place and visible at the rear of the building. The vault ceiling is plastered.
5. Doorways and doors: Trim is wood, flat. The doors are common five-panel wooden doors. The door between the large room and the rear room looks original. Its head trim has a cap molding. This door and its frame are stained dark. The frame of the main entrance door and those of the windows are stained the same way. Window trim is also flat, but has a ½-inch horizontal bead molding across the lower edge of the head trim and a cap molding as well. Some trim is concealed by the lowered ceiling.
6. Interior trim: The baseboard is a board 9½ inches high capped by 2-inch high molded trim which projects beyond the baseboard.
7. Hardware: Plain, ordinary hardware is found inside the building. The right-hand front door has a brass thumb-operated latchset.
8. Mechanical and electrical equipment: An oil stove now heats the building, venting into the brick chimney, which is supported by brackets on the wood stud partition. The main room is lit by four diffuser globes of common institutional design, controlled by pull switches at each fixture.

Site and surroundings

1. Orientation and general surroundings: The east end and south side face intersecting streets, Broadway at the east and Main at the south. The ground is flat. The Idaho Northern Railroad Structure (Hill, Delores, House) is across Main Street to the south.
2. Historic landscape design: None
3. Outbuildings: None. There is an elevated oil drum next to the north wall of the building.

APPENDIX

CHAIN OF TITLE: FARMERS' & STOCKGROWERS' BANK

Description: Lot 13, Block 3, townsite of Montour, T7N R1E, B.M.

Reference: Recorder's Office, Gem County Courthouse, Emmett, Idaho

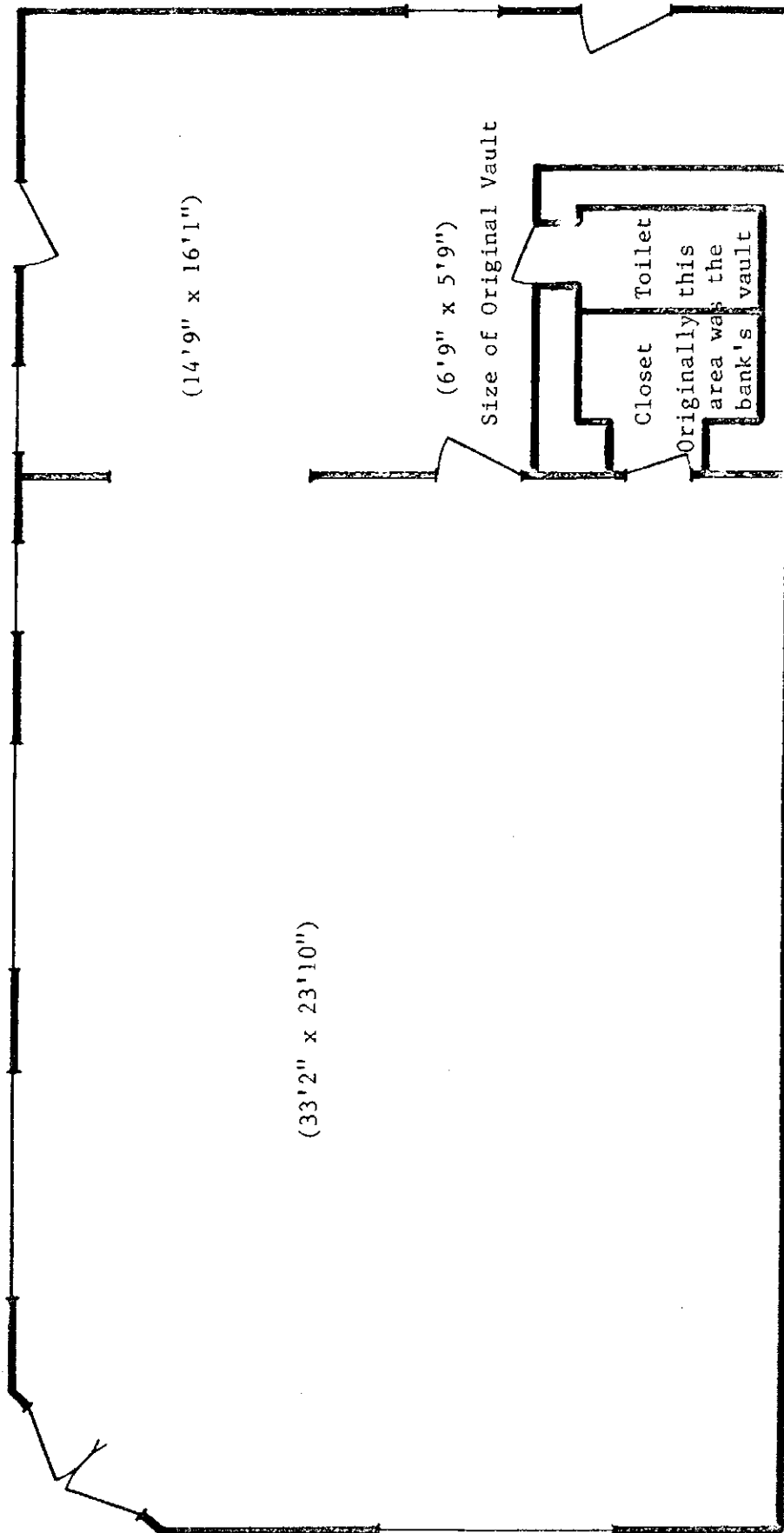
- 1914 Deed 30 September 1914
Recorded 17 February 1917
Book D. Deeds, p. 469
E. H. Dewey, Trustee
to
A. D. Stanton
- 1920 Deed 24 November 1920
Recorded 1 December 1920
Book 14 Deeds, p. 60
A. D. Stanton & Gertrude Stanton
to
Farmers' and Stockgrowers' Bank of Montour
- 1934 Corporate Deed 15 June 1934
Recorded 19 December 1936
Book 23 Deeds, p. 478
Farmers' & Stockgrowers' Bank
to
C. D. Newhouse
- 1936 Decree of Distribution 30 December 1936
Recorded 2 January 1937
Book 2 Probate, p. 79
Estate of C. D. Newhouse, Deceased
to
Clara Newhouse, R. E. Newhouse, Lucile Newhouse, Ruth
N. Burton, C. M. Newhouse, D. S. Newhouse, Pauline
N. Oberholtzer
- 1937 Deed 14 July 1937
Recorded 30 October 1939
Book 25 Deeds, p. 228
R.E.Newhouse, Lucile Newhouse, Clara Newhouse, D. S.
Newhouse, Pauline N. Overholtzer
to
H. A. Pugh

Continued - Chain of Title, Farmers' & Stockgrowers' Bank

- 1945 Deed 29 January 1945
Recorded 9 March 1945
Book 29 Deeds, p. 24
H. A. Pugh & Rose Pugh
to
Coleen (sic) McConnell, Esther Palmer & Mary E.
Idle or survivor for Ladies Aid of the Methodist
Church of Montour
- 1947 Deed 7 July 1947
Recorded 21 June 1948
Book 32 Deeds, p. 433
Mary Idle, Esther Palmer & Coline McConnel trustees
of Montour Ladies Aid
to
Esther Palmer & Coline McConnel, Trustees of Montour
Ladies Aid
- 1978 Deed 2 May 1978
Recorded (not indicated)
Deed Instrument #123962
Esther Palmer & Coline McConnel, Trustees of Montour
Ladies Aid
to
U. S. A.

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by Dennett, Muessig & Associates, Iowa City, Iowa, in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region. It fulfills the Bureau of Reclamation's obligations under a memorandum of agreement between the Bureau, the State of Idaho, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR 800. The structure was photographed, measured, and drawn March - September, 1979 by Sarah J. Dennett and Hans Muessig, Project Supervisors; Wesley I. Shank, Project Architectural Historian/Historical Architect, (Iowa State University); Martha H. Bowers, Project Historian; Robert A. Ryan, Project Photographer; and Philipp Muessig, Project Assistant.



FARMERS & STOCKGROWERS BANK N V
approx. 3/16 scale